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HOUSE RESOLUTION 163
By Roach

A RESOLUTION to honor St. Louis Rams linebacker, New Market, Tennessee, native Todd Collins.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize talented natives of our state who are outstanding high school, college and pro football players, thus serving admirably as excellent role models for young citizens and for us all; and

WHEREAS, Todd Collins, a native of New Market, Tennessee, and a starting linebacker for the Super Bowl XXXVI Champion St. Louis Rams; is clearly one such state hero; and

WHEREAS, this season, he has started each of the Rams' 19 games, made 74 tackles, six behind the line of scrimmage, and had one sack; and

WHEREAS, Todd has been a talented star at each level of competition, playing with extraordinary diligence and dedication for the very successful Jefferson County High School football team, a school where his father, Jim, was a highly regarded principal, and his mother, Doris, a popular teacher; and

WHEREAS, he earned *USA Today*, *SuperPrep*, and *Parade Magazine* First Team All-American honors while a senior; and

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WHEREAS, at Carson-Newman College Todd was a two-year starter and made 184 tackles and six sacks during his final season for the Eagles; and

WHEREAS, a third-round NFL draft pick, Todd played for the New England Patriots for six productive seasons from 1992-94 and 1996-98; and

WHEREAS, during this period he was one of the Patriots leading tacklers, starting five playoff games, including Super Bowl XXXI against Green Bay, a game in which he made six tackles; and

WHEREAS, Todd signed with the St. Louis Rams as an unrestricted free agent on March 22, 1999, and helped lead the team to a Super Bowl Championship; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor one of Tennessee's greatest football players on helping his team win Super Bowl XXXVI; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and congratulate Todd Collins and wish him much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.